

# South Shore

STATE PARK



**Illinois**  
Department of  
**Natural Resources**

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South Shore State Park

Carlyle Lake, which at 26,000 acres is the largest manmade reservoir in Illinois, is home to South Shore State Park. Located on land leased by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the 3-mile-long park is situated on the lake's southeast side, approximately 3 miles east of the city of Carlyle on Illinois Route 50.

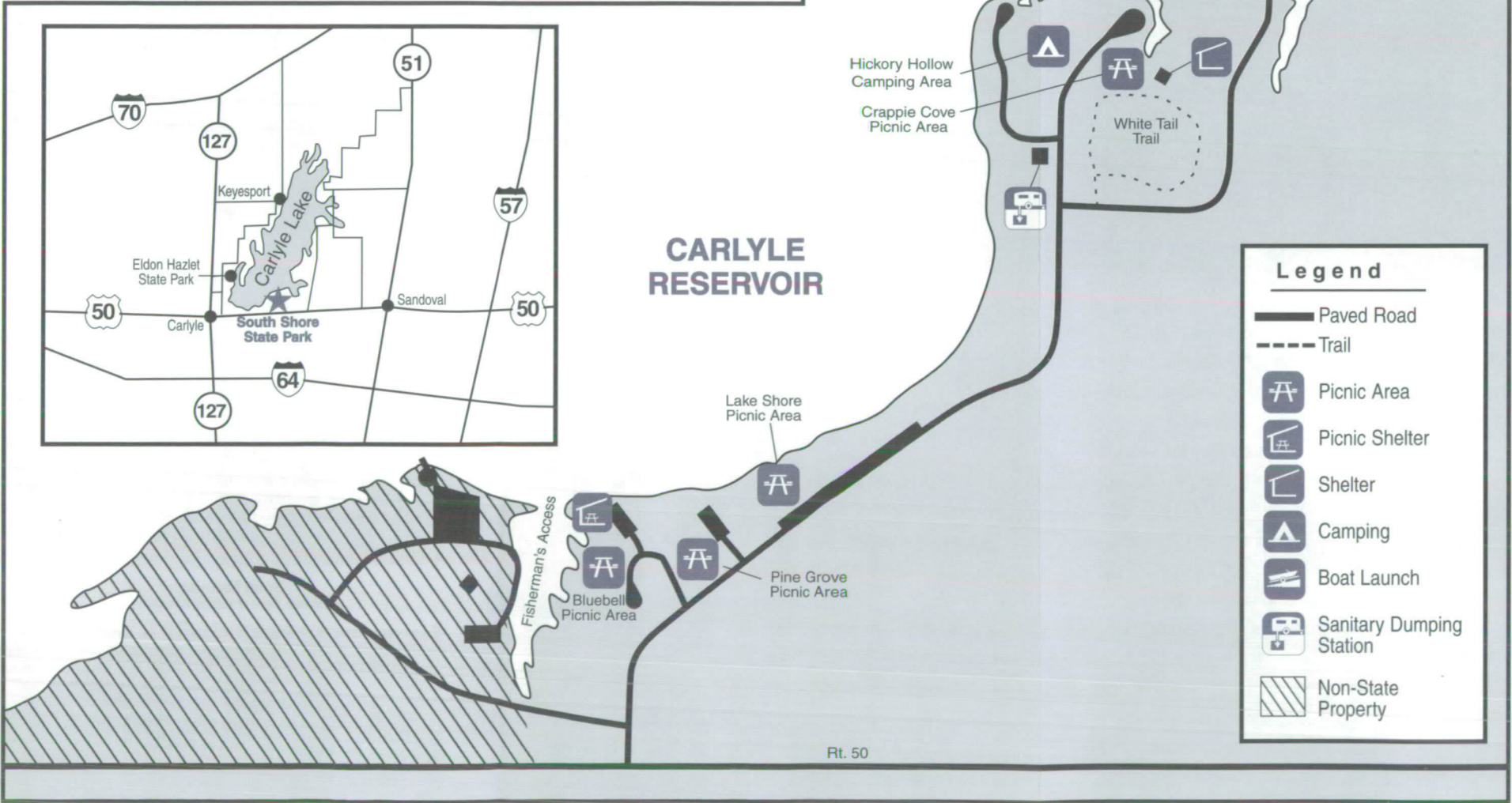
Managed to preserve its natural and cultural resources, the park also provides recreational opportunities, including small-boat access, a Class C campground with vehicular access, five day-use areas for picnicking, a 3/4-mile hiking trail, as well as outstanding bank-fishing opportunities. Observing wildlife, especially white-tailed deer, is another popular activity.

Natural Resources

South Shore State Park is host to many wildlife species. In addition to deer, the park is inhabited by red foxes, raccoons, squirrels, woodchucks, quail, doves and songbirds, including bluebirds. Bluebird boxes, other nest structures and brush piles have been placed throughout the park. Local wildlife populations also benefit from the restoration of native prairie grasses along the park's roadways. More than 200,000 waterfowl stop at the lake on their migratory travels north and south each winter. Along with waterfowl, other types of birds commonly seen at the park include herons and egrets, shorebirds, songbirds and raptors.

Picnicking

Roads wind through the park to various access points and to five day-use areas, which are well equipped with tables and grills. Bluebell and Crappie Cove picnic areas have shelters to accommodate large family reunions and other gatherings, with groups of 25 or more people needing to obtain advance permission from the park office. Water fountains and toilet facilities are conveniently located. There is no concession stand.





## Facilities

**Camping:** Hickory Hollow Campground features vehicular access for 33 tents or trailers, with a sanitary disposal station located nearby. Neither electricity nor showers are available to campers. With its position along Carlyle Lake, the campground offers tremendous lake views and allows many campers to keep their boats in the protected coves of the campground's shoreline. All campers must obtain a permit from park staff before entering the campground. Hickory Hollow is an alcohol-free campground.



**Fishing:** Many of the access areas have been rippedraped to protect the shores from erosion. These areas also provide good fishing spots. Anglers can catch crappie, largemouth bass, white bass, walleye, bluegill, sunfish, channel catfish, carp and suckers.

**Boating:** A boat-launching area for small boats is found at the Deer Run Access Area, located at the northern part of the park. Immediately adjacent to the park is a large-boat ramp operated by the Corps of Engineers. No boat rental is available within the park. Motor size is not limited and sailboats are welcome on the lake.

**Other Recreational Activities:** The Whitetail is a 3/4-mile hiking trail. The trail is open to the public for activities such as hiking, birdwatching and wildlife viewing. Since the park is closed to hunting year-round, the trail also offers hikers a great opportunity to see our state animal, the white-tailed deer. The trail-head is located adjacent to the Crappie Cove picnic area.

## Nearby Facilities

In addition to the conveniences featured at South Shore State Park, most Carlyle Lake visitors will want to look into the facilities offered by the Corps of Engineers and another Department of Natural Resources site, Eldon Hazlet State Park.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operates several campgrounds, boat access areas, swimming beaches and other facilities around the lake. For further information, call the Carlyle Lake Management Office at (618) 594-2484 or the Visitor Center at (618) 594-LAKE. The Corps also operates an information line, (618) 594-4637, featuring a recorded update on weather conditions, lake level and water temperature, fishing reports and seasonal information on recreational opportunities.

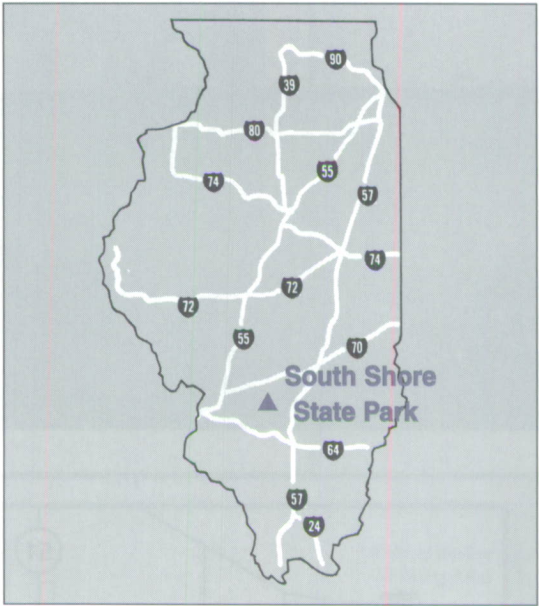
Eldon Hazlet State Park, located 3 miles north of the city of Carlyle, is one of the most popular recreational facilities within the Illinois state park system. Park visitors enjoy camping, boating, fishing, hunting, birdwatching and hiking, with many people attending the sailboat regattas held most summer weekends. Full-time park interpreters and seasonal interpreters at Eldon Hazlet provide educational programs for school and youth groups throughout the year, while hikes, interpretive programs and recreational activities are offered weekends during the summer.

For more information about either South Shore or Eldon Hazlet state parks, contact the Eldon Hazlet park office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 20100 Hazlet Park Road, Carlyle, IL 62231 or phone (618) 594-3015.

## If the outdoors in Illinois is where you want to be—



For only \$10, you can subscribe to *OutdoorIllinois* magazine, a publication of the Department of Natural Resources. You will receive 12 issues for \$10, plus a free, full-color wall calendar in the December issue. Call toll-free in Illinois, 1-800-720-3249. Outside Illinois, call (217) 782-1687. TTY (217) 782-9175. Or send a \$10 check or money order to *OutdoorIllinois*, P.O. Box 19225, Dept. NL, Springfield, IL 62794-9225.



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 20100 Hazlet Park Rd.  
 Carlyle, IL 62231, (618) 594-3015

- While groups of 25 or more are welcome and encouraged to use the park's facilities, they are required to register in advance with the site office to avoid crowding or scheduling conflicts.
- At least one responsible adult must accompany each group of 15 minors.
- Pets must be kept on leashes at all times.
- Actions by nature can result in closed roads and other facilities. We hope you enjoy your stay. Remember, take only memories, leave only footprints.
- For more information on state parks, write to the Department of Natural Resources, Office of Public Services, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271, call (217) 782-6302 or visit our website at <http://dnr.state.il.us>.
- For more information on tourism in Illinois, call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs' Bureau of Tourism at 1-800-2CONNECT.
- Hearing-impaired individuals may call the Department of Natural Resources' TTY number, (217) 782-9175, or use the Ameritech Relay Number, 1-800-526-0844.

Rod R. Blagojevich  
 Governor

Joel Brunsvold  
 Director

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